Summer 2015 Update

Happy Summer! We hope you are all well and thriving. As we complete our 5th year of practice at The GW Medical Faculty Associates, we want to share exciting updates about our practice with you. We hope you will thoroughly review this letter and pass it along to your friends.

Midwifery Services at The GW Medical Faculty Associates is thriving. We have delivered over 2,000 Midwifery babies and our outcome data remains consistent and excellent. Approximately 95% of our women deliver vaginally, and of them, 84% do so naturally, without epidural or major interventions. Our women are amazing, and continue to inspire us with their strength and bravery, no matter how the labor and delivery goes. In addition, we have a VBAC success rate of approximately 90%—and 100% of our patients are committed to breastfeeding from delivery room through the first three months of a newborn’s life.

Three Convenient Locations & Expert Medical Partners

For our women’s convenience, we provide care in the office every day at our I Street, M Street, and Bethesda locations, where our model continues to focus on optimal nutrition and exercise guidelines that promote normal birth. We have excellent working relationships with our physician and nursing colleagues, and work closely with our physician colleagues when women develop medical complications that require consultation, collaboration, and referral. In addition, we continue to partner closely with GWU Hospital to expand and improve our services.

Locations

22nd & I Street, NW, 5th Floor
Washington, DC 20037

2300 M Street, NW, Suite 110
Washington, DC 20037

4920 Elm Street, Suite 225
Bethesda, MD 20814

Kandace Thomas, CNM delivered our 2,000th Midwifery baby at the GW Hospital.
Experienced and Dedicated Providers and Staff

We are enrolling approximately 70 women per month for deliveries. Each woman chooses, or is assigned, a primary midwife who is her point person in the practice.

In addition, each woman rotates through and meets all of the midwives. One midwife is on-call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for deliveries and urgent matters. While our personalities are different, our practice philosophies are consistent and we are confident that you will have the midwife that you need when the time comes. Our shared philosophy and practice strategies unify us. We believe in and support each woman’s innate ability to give birth. Bring your birthing village with you: your partner, your doula, and others who will support you deeply, if you wish.

As can be expected in any midwifery service, we have some staffing changes this summer. Our founding partner, Laura Emmons, CNM, MSN, is leaving us to explore her many other professional goals. Our dear colleagues Alex Woolley, CNM, MSN and Kelly Kleiderer, CNM, MSN are both moving west for their husbands’ dream career opportunities. Lucky women in Glens Springs, Colorado and Spokane, Washington! Our amazing staff of experienced and dedicated midwives, Sierra Casillas, CNM, MSN, Nora Fisher, CNM, MSN, Kimla McDonald, CNM, MSN, Whitney Pinger, CNM, MSN, FACNM, Marsha Stalcup, CNM, MSN, and Kandace Thomas CNM, will be joined by Hannah McIntyre, CNM, MSN, Ashlee Lyvers, CNM, MSN, and Ilana Estman, CNM, MSN. Hannah was our student several years ago, Ashlee is a close colleague, and Ilana was our Midwifery Fellow this past year, being one of our midwifery students for the year before that. Additionally, we have re-welcomed another of our founding partners, Erika Pines-Mark, CNM, MSN, who will support our office gynecology practice and provide much needed urgent visit slots for our patients. Welcome Hannah, Ashlee, Ilana, and Erika!

We will also be welcoming our new Midwifery Fellows for the next year: Alice Kline CNM, MSN and Michelle Clausen MSN, CNM. Alice and Michelle were midwifery students this past year, so many of you may already be familiar with them. A Midwifery Fellow is a newly graduated midwife, who will spend a year working side-by-side with the midwives and the physicians on the labor floor. During this year, she will hone her clinical skills and be a very active and engaged member of our team.

Like us on Facebook & visit us online
facebook.com/gwmidwives
gwdocs.com/midwifery-services

Tiphanni Perkins, Administrative Lead

Tiphanni Perkins remains our Administrative Lead and works closely with other administrative partners to meet your needs. By increasing our staffing, we eliminated waiting lists, creating a sense of calm and confidence that we hope permeates the practice, which we know is essential to promoting normal birth.

Efficient Patient Care Services

Our Call Center continues to manage our phone calls and appointment scheduling. Tiphanni remains available for other administrative issues and you can be transferred to her by the call center as needed. We also encourage you to utilize MyHealth for scheduling appointments. Please register for MyHealth at your first or next appointment for access to your medical record and to correspond with your primary midwife about non-urgent and brief matters. To learn about MyHealth visit: gwdocs.com/my-health

Community Education Events

You are welcome and encouraged to attend, even if you have previously delivered with us, our “Meet the Midwives” education events. Our next event is Tuesday, July 21, 2015 at 6:30 pm in the hospital auditorium. For more information and upcoming “Meet the Midwives” dates, visit gwdocs.com/midwifery-services.

Routine Gynecological Services

Remember, in addition to providing pregnancy care, your midwives are experts in providing routine gynecological services including annual exams, pap smears, birth control counseling, preconception counseling, and IUD insertions. To schedule an appointment, please call us at 202.741.2500 and follow the prompts.